

**STATE BOARD ADVISORY PANEL  
FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Arizona State Advisory Panel for Special Education held a meeting at Arizona Department of Education, 1535 W. Jefferson, Room 417, Phoenix, Arizona, on May 15, 2007, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Members Present

J'Anne Affeld  
M. Diane Bruening  
Ronald L. Clanton  
Susan Douglas, Co-chair  
Molly Dries  
Kathy McDonald  
Megan McGlynn  
Terisa Rademacher, Co-chair  
Jean Sargent Richards, Ed.D  
Kim Simmons  
Kay B. Turner, Ed.D, Vice-chairperson  
Nancy Williams

Others Present

Lynn Busenbark, ADE/ESS  
Colette Chapman, ADE/ESS  
Valerie Andrews, ADE/ECE  
Jeannette Zemeida, ADE/ESS

Members Absent

Jason Geroux  
Phyllis Green  
Robert Hill  
Erik Jensen  
Mattie McVey Lord

Minutes Approved (As Read)(As Amended)

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Date

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
1. Call to order.	Susan Douglas, Co-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.	1. None
2. Approval of March 6, 2007 minutes.	<p>Corrections were made to the March 6, 2007 minutes:</p> <p>Colette Chapman was not present at the March meeting; her name was removed. On page 4, the sentence "A bill has been introduced that would allow students who have turned 21 years of age during the school year to remain in school for the balance of that school year." was changed to read "who have turned 22 years of age"</p> <p>Nancy Williams made a motion and seconded by Ron Clanton to approve the amended minutes of the March 6, 2007 meeting.</p>	2. Motion carried
3. Public comment.	Ms. Rademacher welcomed the public in attendance. She explained to those present the procedures for making a comment. Anyone wishing to comment on an agenda item was asked to fill out a brief questionnaire stating which agenda item they wished to comment on. That person would then be called on when that item was discussed.	3. None
4. Intergovernmental Agreements Between the Arizona Department of Education and the Arizona Department of Economic Security	<p>Transition Intergovernmental Agreement and Child Find Intergovernmental Agreement</p> <p>Public Comment scheduled from 9:30 – 10:30 am.</p> <p>Becky Raabe, Coordinator for Child Find and the Parent Information Network opened the floor for public comment. She asked that anyone who wished to speak sign the form for Public Comment. The form was signed by all SEAP members present at the meeting.</p> <p>Diane Breuning asked for a recap of the IGA and any differences from previous IGAs. Ms. Raabe clarified the changes. There were some minor changes to the Child Find IGA. There were some changes to definitions so that they would align with the definitions in the Transition IGA.</p> <p>Valerie Andrews and Molly Dries explained the changes to the Transition IGA. The changes made were to clarify the confusion that came about from the previous changes to the IGA.</p> <p>Ms. Raabe, Ms. Andrews and Ms. Dries fielded many questions and comments from SEAP members. Ms. Raabe recorded the comments.</p>	4. None
5. Arizona Early Intervention Program	Molly Dries Bright, M.S., SEAP member and Executive Director of Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) updated the Panel on recent changes to Local Program Coordination Contacts.	5. None.

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	<p>AzEIP will be eliminating the Local Program Coordination position. Ms. Dries outlined the role of the community liaison position which has been in place for about 12-14 years. Unfortunately the resources of AzEIP have been stretched thin and cuts to the program had to be made.</p> <p>Two of the primary functions of the position is public awareness and community outreach. AzEIP will be working with other divisions and programs within the Department of Economic Security (DES), such as Child Care Administration, and the Division of Children, Youth and Families, Child Support Enforcement, and Benefits and Medical Eligibility to ensure that staff and contractors who have contact with families of young children understand AzEIP and how to make a referral. Also, AzEIP is working with agency partners, such as AHCCCS and ADHS to distribute public awareness information to staff and contractors.</p> <p>AzEIP is recruiting to fill a position dedicated to public awareness and outreach. The individual will design materials specifically for target audiences and develop and coordinate implementation of marketing and public awareness plans.</p> <p>Ms. Dries Bright fielded questions and concerns from SEAP members.</p>	
6. Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD)	<p>Miriam Podrazik, Director of CSPD, Exceptional Students Services distributed flyers for upcoming trainings being held by ESS.</p> <p>Ms. Podrazik told the Panel that the 2007 Director's Institute will be held October 29 – November 1, 2007 at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel. They are expecting 500 – 800 special education directors and personnel, teachers and parents. The first day targets new special education directors and their administrative assistants. Art Cernosia will be presenting on the second and third days regarding special education law. Ms. Podrazik reviewed sessions that are planned for the Institute.</p> <p>SEAP members suggested ideas for Institute sessions. Their suggestions included training for working with new teachers, 6B grants and paraprofessional training. There may be an all-day session on funding on November 1.</p> <p>Ms. Podrazik introduced Debbra Coleman, the new Education Program Specialist in CSPD. Ms. Coleman has been assigned two major tasks: to increase special education math scores and to redesign the Special Edition newsletter.</p> <p>Ms. Coleman distributed draft copies of the proposed Special Edition newsletter. The newsletter will be smaller and will be produced 6-8 times a year.</p> <p>Ms. Coleman spoke to the Panel about the Math Initiative. CSPD is developing training for</p>	6. None

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	teachers to assist them in increasing math scores for special education students. For the first time, assistive technology will be incorporated into the math training. Nora Ramirez will be the instructor for the math trainings. Ms. Ramirez is on the Board of Directors for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. She is also present-elect of TODOS: Mathematics for All.	
	CSPD is also putting together a math task force with the three state universities. Dr. Jim Middleton has taken a great interest in what the Department is doing in mathematics for special needs students. The trainings will begin their focus at the K-3 level for the 2007-08 school year. Other grades will be added later on.	
7. Exceptional Student Services.	<p>Colette Chapman, Assistant Deputy Associate Superintendent, Exceptional Student Services (ESS), gave the legislative update.</p> <p>HB 2184 has been signed by the Governor. The purpose of the law is to conform statutes related to the education of children with disabilities to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</p> <p>HB 2251 has been signed by the Governor. The purpose of the law is to extend special education services, provided by a school district or the county school superintendent, through the end of the school year for a pupil who turns 22 during the school year. There are other state laws that will need to be changed as a result. This law will take effect 90 days after the legislative session closes.</p> <p>HB 2393 has been signed by the Governor. This replaces the court of competent jurisdiction with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to appoint a surrogate parent to represent a child with a disability whose parent cannot be identified or located, in matters related to special education identification, evaluation and placement.</p> <p>ESS will maintain a list of surrogate parents that Districts can request. ESS will hire a surrogate parent coordinator to be housed within the Department of Education.</p> <p>SB 1487 passed the Senate Education Committee and then died. It would have appropriated \$1 million from the state General Fund in FY 2007-2008 to the Extraordinary Special Needs Fund; and increased Group B weights for pupils with mild mental retardation, learning and emotional disabilities, speech/language, other health impairments and traumatic brain injuries.</p> <p>Diane Bruening moved and Kay Turner seconded that "The Special Education Advisory Panel Executive Officers resubmit SEAP's input as per the April 3, 2007 memorandum regarding SB 1487, or its resurrected notation, regarding Special Education weights – that it be resent to the</p>	7. Motion carried.

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	<p>Senate Appropriations Committee, along with a phone call to members of the Executive Board." The motion was passed. Ron Clanton abstained.</p> <p>Dr. Lynn Busenbark, Acting Deputy Associate Superintendent, Exceptional Student Services, reported that the US Department of Education (USDOE) has rethought the language in IDEA 04. The State Performance Plan's (SPP) determination regarding disproportionality could be different from the 15% diversion criteria. This means that the State can "let people off the hook" for the SPP after taking into consideration their Policies, Procedures and Practices. However, the State requires a diversion of 15% of funds if the LEA has a significant disproportionality in the areas of identification (both overall and by disability and race), suspension/expulsion or LRE.</p> <p>Arizona can use criteria for the determination other than the SPP to determine whether or not to divert the 15%. Dr. Busenbark and Panel members discussed criteria that Arizona could use to determine disproportionality. They determined that if Arizona used a weighted risk ratio of 3.0 for 2 years of data that 7 school districts would currently be out of compliance. The Panel compared Arizona criteria to other states.</p> <p>A weighted risk ratio cannot be used to determine disproportionality in suspension/expulsion since there isn't any data collected in the general education population that can be used as a comparison.</p> <p>Dr. Busenbark did not have any information for determining LRE disproportionality.</p> <p>Panel members held a discussion regarding the difficulty of tracking the use of diverted funds.</p> <p>Panel members held a discussion regarding ways to eliminate LEAs from the disproportionality list that are truly not disproportionate. After informing the Panel of several ways that LEAs can determine disproportionality Dr. Busenbark recommended setting the ESS determination at &lt;3.0 for 2 years in succession with N &gt; 10 (allowing exclusions discussed earlier). ESS currently only has 2 years of weighted risk data. It was recommended that the disproportionality determination be set at &lt;3.0 for 3 years with N &gt; 10 once the data is available.</p> <p>Dr. Busenbark answered general special education questions from Panel members.</p>	
8. Update on Recent Presentations and Issues	<p>Dr. Kay Turner reported on the Early Childhood Health and Development Board, which was formed in response to the passing of Proposition 203, The Early Childhood Development and Health Initiative. Dr. Turner informed the Panel that Regional council members in Yavapai County and the Tohono O'Odham Reservation still hadn't been approved by the Senate. The</p>	8. None

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	<p>approvals had been put on hold. Dr. Turner felt that the Council could not begin to operate until all council members were seated and therefore, SEAP couldn't make any recommendations at this time. She said that she would come back with an updated report at the November SEAP meeting.</p> <p>Valerie Andrews informed the Panel that the new state agency was still being set up and that money from the Agency wouldn't even begin to be disbursed until 2008 or 2009.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher read a letter from Mr. Arnold, School Facilities Board. According to Mr. Arnold, the definition of ADM would need to be changed in order to make the changes outlined in the letter SEAP sent to the School Facilities Board.</p> <p>Art Harding recommended that SEAP select a legislator that would be sympathetic to its cause and have that legislator sponsor a bill changing ADM. If the change were made, the SFB could then take into consideration accommodating the all-day kindergarten and general preschool children so that space could be allocated to the school. Ms. Rademacher informed the Panel about advice she has received regarding drafting of the bill.</p> <p>Panel members discussed ways to tackle the issue. Dr. Busenbark reminded the Panel that increasing the ADM would mean increasing funding, which would be difficult to do. She suggested that SEAP focus on changing the statute that defines how the School Facilities Board calculates space.</p> <p>The Panel discussed starting with someone in Early Childhood as this is the population that is affected by lack of space in schools. Ron Clanton recommended two legislators who would possibly support SEAP on this issue. Panel members will address the process at the September SEAP meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Busenbark informed the Panel that the Mathematics test needs to be built so that a calculator is not a non standard accommodation. Panel discussed information that needed to be included in the test.</p>	

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9. Panel Business	<p>Ms. Rademacher reviewed the positions that have a June 30, 2007 expiration:</p> <p>Parents of Children with Disabilities Ronald L. Clanton Vacancy</p> <p>Individuals with Disabilities Eric Jensen</p> <p>Representatives of Institutions of Higher Learning that Prepares Special Education and Related Services Personnel J'Anne Affeld (also a Parent of a Child with Disabilities)</p> <p>Representatives of a Vocational, Community, or Business Organization Concerned with the Provision of Transition Services to Children with Disabilities Vacancy</p> <p>J'Anne Affeld and Ron Clanton plan to reapply. The Panel needs to have a Representative of a Private School appointed in order to satisfy the member definitions listed in the By-laws.</p> <p>The Panel reviewed the proposed Calendar for 2007-08:</p> <p>September 25, 2007 November 20, 2007 January 15, 2008 March 4, 2008 May 13 or 20, 2008 June 17, 2008</p> <p>Due to the adjustment of the September SEAP meeting (moved a week later due to the Transition Conference) Jeannette Zemeida will need to find a different location for the September 25 meeting. The Panel chose May 13 for the May SEAP meeting.</p> <p>J'Anne Affeld made a motion and seconded by Kathy McDonald to approve the 2007-08 SEAP Calendar.</p> <p>The Co-Chair position currently held by Sue Douglas will be up for re-election at the June SEAP meeting. This is a two-year position. The Vice Chair position will also be up for re-election. This is a one-year position. Current Panel members were encouraged to consider running for either of the positions. Ms. Douglas reminded the Panel that Ms. Rademacher has</p>	9. Motion carried.

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	<p>only one year left on the Panel. Ms. Rademacher has been an active Co-Chair with her many duties and SEAP will need someone who is willing and able to help take over those responsibilities.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher reviewed topics that will be included on the Annual Report. The topics will include: School Facilities Board, Calculator Use, Proposition 203 Presentation, Summary of the Autism Presentation by Sydney Pettygrove and State Performance Plan activities. Cathy McDonald volunteered to help gather the information for the Annual Report. Panel members should receive a draft of the Report by June 15 so that they can review it before the June 19 SEAP meeting.</p>	
10. Adjournment	<p>The next SEAP meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2007.</p> <p>Proposed agenda items for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual Report</li><li>• School Facilities Board</li><li>• Calculator Use – Roberta Alley (include Debbra Coleman)</li><li>• Secure Care – Megan McGlynn</li><li>• SEAP Community Recognition</li><li>• Medicaid in Public Schools</li><li>• Navigating ADE Website (September Agenda)</li><li>• John Copenhaver (November Agenda)</li><li>• Early Childhood – add as standing agenda item</li></ul> <p>Ms. Rademacher adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.</p>	10. Adjournment.